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## Original Communications.

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THE GERMICIDAL VALUE OF TRIKRESOL. By MAJOR WALTER REED, Surgeon U. S. Army.

Recently a new competitor has appeared to contest the palm with the older germicides. From pre-bacterial days, when Lister first used carbolic acid for antiseptic purposes, basing his action upon Lemaire's discovery that it would prevent fermentation in fluids capable of undergoing that change, down to the present day, this important derivative of coal-tar has commanded a wide employment in surgical and sanitary work.

Until 1881, when, influenced by Koch's experiments, bichloride of mercury was brought so prominently to the attention of the profession, carbolic acid had been almost the surgeon's sole reliance in combating suppurative processes. Henceforth the field was to be equally shared by the mercurial salt, or perhaps it would be more correct to say that carbolic acid was to be relegated to a secondary position in antiseptic work.

But as time passed and observations multiplied, objections were raised against both of these agents. I need not occupy your time with mention of their disadvantages and dangers; suffice it to say, that out of these and out of a wider knowledge of

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**Death of Dr. Rauch.**—A press of other matter has delayed the announcement on our part of this sad event, which has evoked universal regret among the members of the American medical profession. We copy the following from an exchange: Dr. John H. Rauch, of Chicago, the distinguished sanitarian and publicist, was found dead in bed at the residence of his brother, Cyrus G. Rauch, of Lebanon, Pa., March 25, 1894. Dr. Rauch had not been in robust health for some time, and, worn and weary from long-continued labor, a few months ago sought rest in his old home where he was born and reared. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1850, and afterward located at Burlington, Iowa. He entered the civil war as brigade surgeon, and finally became medical director of the Department of the Gulf. After the war he settled in Chicago, and was elected to the faculty in Rush Medical College. He became president, and finally secretary of the Illinois State Board of Health, and rendered active service in epidemics of yellow fever and cholera. He was a member of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, chairman of the section of State Medicine in the American Medical Association, and one of the trustees of the Association Journal.

**Death of Brown-Sequard.**—The present year has not spared distinguished medical men. We are constantly in receipt of news of the demise of some eminent worker in the domain of medical science. Among the recent ones is Professor Charles Edouard Brown-Sequard, M.D., the eminent physician, physiologist and scientist, who died in Paris, April 2, 1894. He was born in the island of Mauritius in 1818. He took the degree of M.D. in the Paris School of Medicine in 1846, and he delivered a series of lectures before the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in London in 1858. He took up his residence in the United States in 1864, and was appointed professor of physiology and pathology of the nervous system at Harvard. He returned

to France in 1869, when he was appointed professor of experimental physiology in the School of Medicine in Paris, and in 1878 he succeeded Claude Bernard in the chair of experimental medicine in the College of France. He has been a frequent contributor to the literature of medicine, and his services often have been in demand as a consultant in diseases of the nervous system. He made many brilliant discoveries, and had established his reputation as an eminent savant. He will be best remembered as the pioneer in the injection of animal extracts, a therapeutic method which seems to bid fair to have a wide and useful field in the future.

**Missouri State Medical Association.**—The meeting recently held at Lebanon, Mo., was a good one, so far as the reading of papers was concerned. In point of attendance, however, it fell far short of quite a number of former gatherings of this body. St. Louis and Kansas City were well represented, but the rest of the State made a very poor showing. The papers were good and quite a large number was read. The question of endorsing the changes recommended by the committee appointed by the American Medical Association in the Code of Ethics, came up. A motion to endorse such changes was made, but it was defeated by a very small majority. It appeared almost as if a reaction was beginning to take place on this question. The Association decided to hold its next meeting in Hannibal. The officers to serve during the next year are as follows: President, Dr. Richmond, St. Joseph; 1st vice-president, Dr. J. P. Thatcher, Pisgah; 2d vice-president, Dr. A. B. Shaw, St. Louis; 3d vice-president, Dr. Jas. McComb, Lebanon; 4th vice-president, Dr. I. N. Baskett, Hannibal; 5th vice-president, Dr. H. C. Crowell, Kansas City; secretary, Dr. Frank R. Fry, St. Louis; assistant secretary, Dr. P. L. Kabler, Hannibal; corresponding secretary, Dr. C. F. Wainright, Kansas City; treasurer, Dr. C. A. Thompson, Jefferson City.

It is anticipated that the next meeting will be one largely attended, and in the highest degree successful.

**Modern Experimental Medicine.**—In his anniversary discourse on this subject, Dr. William H. Thompson says among other things (*N. Y. Med. Jour.*): France is second only to Germany in the field of experimental medicine. Thus the English student of bacteriology has to learn the two languages, French and Ger-